

Appl. No. 09/258,601
Amdt. Dated October 12, 2004
Reply to Office Action of April 19, 2002

Attorney Docket No. 83315.0001
Customer No.: 26021

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. - 20. (canceled)

21. (previously presented) A method for communicating information between computers, comprising:

a first computer receiving from its user an input indicating a telephone number for an information source;

the first computer obtaining from a database a network identification of the information source based on the telephone number;

the first computer establishing a network connection with a second computer of the information source using the network identification; and

the first computer displaying information obtained from the second computer.

22. (previously presented) The method of claim 21, further comprising a step of the first computer establishing a voice telephone connection with the information source.

23. (previously presented) The method of claim 21, further comprising a step of the information source establishing a voice telephone connection with the first computer after the first computer establishes the network connection.

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24. (previously presented) The method of claim 21, further comprising a step of the second computer pushing information to the first computer via the network connection.

25. (previously presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the first computer displays the information obtained from the second computer on a display screen of the first computer, and wherein the information pushed by the second computer includes identifying codes associated with one or more active areas of the first computer's screen, the method further comprising a step of the first computer communicating to the second computer identifying codes associated with active areas selected by the user.

26. (previously presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the pushed information includes video information.

27. (previously presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the pushed video information is interactive video information or smart video streaming information.

28. (previously presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the pushed video information is full screen broadcast quality video information.

29. (previously presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the database is pre-stored in the first computer.

30. (previously presented) The method of claim 29, wherein the pre-stored database is dynamically updated.

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31. (previously presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the telephone and network connections are established via wired or wireless communication channels.

32. (previously presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the telephone and network connections are established via twisted-pair, broadband cable, fiber-optic, cellular, or satellite communication channels.

33. (previously presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the network connection is via the Internet and the network identification is a Universal Resource Locator (URL) or an IP address.

34. (currently amended) A method of interfacing between a user and an information system including a plurality of networked computers, comprising:

the user entering into a first computer an input indicating a telephone number for [[a]] an information source;

the first computer obtaining from a database a network identification of the information source based on the telephone number;

the first computer establishing a network connection with a second computer of the information source using the network identification;

the second computer pushing information to the first computer via the network connection, the pushed information including identifying codes associated with one or more active areas defined for a display screen of the first computer;

the first computer displaying information received from the second computer to the user;

the user selecting one or more of the active areas; and

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the first computer communicating to the second computer identifying code associated with the selected active areas.

35. (previously presented) The method of claim 34, further comprising a step of the first computer establishing a voice telephone connection with the information source.

36. (previously presented) The method of claim 34, further comprising a step of the information source establishing a voice telephone connection with the first computer after the first computer establishes the network connection.

37. (previously presented) The method of claim 34, wherein the user enters the input and selects the active area using an input device of the first computer or a handset unit in wireless communication with the first computer.

38. (previously presented) The method of claim 34, wherein the user enters the input and selects the active area using a handset unit in wireless communication with the first computer, the handset unit having a touch sensitive screen, at least a portion of the touch sensitive screen being mapped to a portion of the display screen of the first computer.

39. (previously presented) The method of claim 34, wherein the user enters the input and selects the active area using a handset unit in wireless communication with the first computer, the handset unit having a numeric keypad with keys corresponding to active areas defined on the display screen of the first computer.

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40. (new) The method of claim 21, wherein the database is a database that links telephone numbers to network address information in a cross directory.

41. (new) The method of claim 40, wherein the database further includes name or street address information associated with the telephone number.

42. (new) The method of claim 41, wherein the input indicating a telephone number is the name associated with the telephone number.

43. (new) The method of claim 34, wherein the database is a database that links telephone numbers to network address information in a cross directory.

44. (new) The method of claim 43, wherein the database further includes name or street address information associated with the telephone number.

45. (new) The method of claim 44, wherein the input indicating a telephone number is the name associated with the telephone number.

46. (new) The method of claim 21, wherein the first computer establishes a network connection with the second computer using the telephone number entered by the user as the only input from the user.

47. (new) The method of claim 34, wherein the first computer establishes a network connection with the second computer using the telephone number entered by the user as the only input from the user.

48. (new) The method of claim 21, further comprising:

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the first computer transmitting voice information from its user to the second computer after establishing the network connection; and
the second computer recording the voice information.

49. (new) The method of claim 21, further comprising:
the first computer transmitting voice information from its user to the second computer after establishing the network connection; and
the second computer recording the voice information.
50. (new) The method of claim 21, further comprising:
the first computer visually displaying a plurality of menu items each associated with a number between 0 and 9 or a special symbol; and
the first computer transmitting a signal to the second computer indicating a user input in response to the visual display.

51. (new) The method of claim 34, further comprising:
the first computer visually displaying a plurality of menu items each associated with a number between 0 and 9 or a special symbol;
the user proving the first computer an input in response to the visual display;
and
the first computer transmitting a signal to the second computer indicating the user input.

52. (new) The method of claim 51, where the user input is provided using a telephone unit.

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53. (new) The method of claim 51, wherein the visual display is displayed on a touch sensitive screen, and the user input is provided using the touch sensitive screen.

54. (new) The method of claim 34, further comprising:
the user controlling the first computer using a telephone handset, a remote control device, a touch sensitive screen, or voice recognition.